

May 15, 2013

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RE: College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta Council decision regarding CDI College PN Program

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) is the regulatory (licensing) organization for Alberta's 10,000 Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs). CLPNA regulates the profession by setting entry-to-practice requirements, establishing, promoting, and enforcing standards for education, registration, practice, and professional conduct. In order to obtain licensure to practice as a LPN in Alberta, the individual must have graduated from an education program approved by the CLPNA. The CDI College offers the approved Bow Valley College (BVC) practical nursing program.

In December 2012, evidence of non-compliance with CLPNA education standards for basic PN education in Alberta surfaced in the CDI practical nurse program. On December 14, 2012 CLPNA suspended the permits of seven CDI College practical nurse graduates who were licensed in Alberta. On February 5, 2013 the Council of the CLPNA withdrew program approval for new enrolment and issued conditional approval for continued delivery of CDI College practical nurse education with existing students. Clearly defined expectations and reporting to CLPNA regarding resolution of issues within the program were outlined. As of Monday April 29, 2013 six of the seven practical nurse graduates from CDI College met the education standard and were reinstated as Licensed Practical Nurses with CLPNA. Reports from CDI College and Bow Valley College were submitted to CLPNA May 8, 2013 and the Council of CLPNA reviewed these reports on May 13, 2013.

Council approved the continued conditional approval of the BVC/CDI College PN Program for current enrollment based on a series of strict conditions. Council ordered an onsite inspection and review by the CLPNA Education Standards Advisory Committee (ESAC), and continued prohibition on new student admission. Approval for the PN Program delivered at CDI College will terminate on earlier of April 30, 2014 or completion of the program by the current students.

BVC and CDI College continue regular reporting to CLPNA, and advise they are working together to ensure students receive the appropriate level of education. The CLPNA continues to monitor and address this situation as necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

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